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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/604,964

08/28/2003

Razak Hossain

03-LJ-011

1963

34603 7590 04/07/2008

STMICROELECTRONICS, INC  
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EXAMINER

LEVIN, NAUM B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2825

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/07/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to application 10/604,964, and RCE filed on 12/03/2007. Claims 4-19 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3 and 20-36 remain pending in the application.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-3, 33 (Group 1), drawn to configuration vector for routing connections between circuit elements to reduce leakage current in a circuit, classified in class 716, subclass 12.

II. Claims 20-32, 34-36 (Group 2), drawn to selecting between test vector and configuration vector to test a circuit, classified in class 716, subclass 4.

Inventions 1-3, 33 (Group 1) and 20-32, 34-36 (Group 2) are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed, because Group 1 does not require test vector to routing connections between circuit elements. The subcombination (Group 2) has separate utilities such as: selecting between test vector and configuration vector; selecting between test vector enable signal and configuration vector enable signal.

3. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required, because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification that requires a different field of search (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naum B. Levin whose telephone number is 571-272-1898. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Naum Levin/  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2825

/Thuan Do/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2825

04/01/2008

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